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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/990,670	11/16/2001	Thomas Hicks	6414-61471	2776

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EXAMINER

TSOY, ELENA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1762

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/990,670

Applicant(s)

HICKS, THOMAS

Examiner

Elena Tsoy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 May 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other:

***Response to Amendment***

Amendment filed on May 28, 2003 has been entered. Claims 1-3, 7-18 have been cancelled. Claims 4-6 are pending in the application.

***Drawings***

The corrected or substitute drawings were received on May 27, 2003. These drawings are acceptable.

***Claim Objections***

1. Objection to claims 5, 6 because of the informalities has been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Rejection of claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention has been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are

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such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claim 4** stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charley et al (US 6,030,002) in view of Taylor et al (US 5,672,413) for the reasons of record as set forth in Paragraph No. 5 of the Office Action mailed on February 27, 2003 (Paper No. 6).

6. **Claims 5, 6** stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charley et al (US 6,030,002) in view of Taylor et al, as applied above, further in view of Rega et al (US 6,054,208) and GB 2324381, and further in view of advertisement for Solar Stat for the reasons of record as set forth in Paragraph No. 6 of the Office Action mailed on February 27, 2003 (Paper No. 6).

#### *Response to Arguments*

7. Applicants' arguments filed May 28, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that Charley et al teach away from the act of "printing a colored image on the film which is translucent" recited in claim 4. A colored image of window covering of Charley et al is not translucent since it is printed by mirror image printing with the use of an opaque white 34.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees with this argument. First of all, a phrase "printing a colored image on the film which is translucent" recited in claim 4 can be easily interpreted as printing on translucent film. Charley et al disclose printing on translucent film 16 (See column 2, lines 33, 47-50).

Secondly, Charley et al teach that mirror-image printing with the use of an opaque white 34 is a *preferred* (i.e. not exclusive) method (See column 2, lines 62-64), and at column 2, lines

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40-60 Charley et al describe a method of printing a colored image with no use of an opaque white 34. Thus, Charley et al do not exclude other methods for printing colored image such as a flexographic printing process with no use of an opaque white. In other words, mirror image printing with the use of an opaque white 34 is merely one of printing methods, described by Charley et al.

Therefore, a window covering with a colored image in Charley et al is translucent because it is made by printing a clear or translucent film 16 with (transparent) inks (See column 2, lines 33-35, 58) and covering the printed image and non-printed areas of the film 16 with a very thin layer of translucent varnish 36 (See column 2, lines 57-59; column 4, lines 53-55).

### *Conclusion*

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elena Tsoy whose telephone number is (703) 605-1171. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shrive Beck can be reached on (703) 308-2333. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



Elena Tsoy  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1762

July 9, 2003



**MICHAEL BARR**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**